


## Module 4: Drama in American Literature

### Topic 5 Content: Literature Review Act Two

#### Introduction

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In this interactivity, click on each of the tabs to explore the inner conflict that has developed within four characters of the play.

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#### John Proctor

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As the act progresses, you see more and more of the internal struggle of the protagonist John Proctor. He knows he can put an end to the rising hysteria by exposing Abigail Williams, but he fears the damage to his own good reputation. His guilt over his adulterous affair steadily rises throughout the act.

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#### Elizabeth Proctor

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Elizabeth Proctor's internal conflict becomes evident first in the opening scene of Act Two with the tension and unspoken questions between husband and wife. Elizabeth wants to believe in her husband but cannot overcome the doubt his betrayal has created. His continual refusal to expose Abigail only deepens the pain Elizabeth feels.

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#### Mary Warren

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Mary Warren is testing out her newfound sense of power throughout Act Two. This is illustrated in the way she not only defies John Proctor's orders but also in the way she attempts to manipulate both John and Elizabeth. It is obvious she wants to test her own powers but is still unsure of herself and afraid of Abigail Williams.

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#### Reverend Hale

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